

# St Crispin's School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## Re. School Day Consultation 2018

Our school day consultation has now concluded. Running this process has reminded me why I believe there is enormous value in consultation as I have much appreciated those of you who have taken the trouble to share your views and propose new (and better) ideas. I have now with the Chair of our Local Advisors reflected on the feedback and I have refined our plans in response to comments and hope that I now have a good way forward to improve our school day.

The consultation took place with all stakeholder groups including students, staff, parent/carers, neighbour schools and transport providers. Student views were gathered in the normal fashion and I was pleased to meet with tutor representatives and the school council. Staff and Parent/Carers views were gathered over a period of one month to a bespoke email address [schooldayconsultation@crispins.co.uk](mailto:schooldayconsultation@crispins.co.uk) and neighbour school views were gathered by email exchange and personal conversation.

Out of 1,124 families I received 35 emails from parents and carers, one of whom was strongly in favour of the change and all others expressing dissatisfaction with the proposal. Concerns ranged from highlighting the significant value of social time, to strong challenge on the assertion that half an hour was a standard work place lunchbreak, to sharing the view that the departure at the end of the day was already safe and ordered. A significant number of parents and carers suggested a review of registration time.

Whilst student representatives appreciated the challenges and experience of winter lunchtimes and the limitations of hard recreation space, it would be safe to say they were not fond of the thought of lunch being shorter! Whilst comments like "it is the best bit of the day" did not warm my heart (naturally wanting them to love their learning more), I understood their sentiment and appreciated their point of view.



As you know, my dual priority is to have a good pattern to the school day alongside ensuring a safe exit from the school site. Therefore, I hope I have a happy compromise that secures the ending the school day at 3pm capitalises on some of the current built in movement time and makes the start of our day more efficient.

From September 2018 the pattern of the school day will be:

8.30am – 8.35am	Registration with Tutors
8.35am – 8.45am	Assembly
5 min movement time	
8.50am – 9.50am	Lesson 1
5 min movement time	
9.55am – 10.55am	Lesson 2
10.55am – 11.15am	Break (20 mins – as now a 3 min bell for movement)
11.15am – 12.15pm	Lesson 3
12.15pm – 12.55pm	Lunch (40 mins – a new 3 mins bell for movement)
12.55am – 1.55pm	Lesson 4
5 min movement time	
2.00pm – 3.00pm	Lesson 5

I believe this adaptation to our day offers the best way of dealing with the health and safety concerns at end of school departure whilst preserving a 40 min period of lunch (albeit) with a 3 min movement bell to move to afternoon lessons. School buses will depart at 3.10pm daily. As I set out in the newsletter there is no reduction in learning time with our five, one hour lessons remaining unchanged.

It is a good opportunity too to remind parents and carers that although our school day will finish at 3pm our school library is supervised each day after school to 3.45pm (and often later) for your sons/daughters to complete their personal study.

I am pleased to share and give my public thanks to St Crispin's School PTA who have generously denoted an additional 6.5K of funds so that we can improve our current hard surface social area. When you next visit the



school, you will see that through this donation we will be able to utilise a previously un-used area of the school for break and lunchtime for recreational basketball.

My sincere thanks once again for all those who took part in the consultation, your comments and ideas made a great deal of difference.

Yours faithfully,

*V. T. Rhodes*

Ms Rhodes  
Headteacher

